ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A fluid heating apparatus has a housing with a main chamber in which a rotor is situated. A drive shaft drives the rotor about a longitudinal axis of rotation. The housing has a fluid inlet and a fluid outlet, the fluid outlet communicating with an inlet region and the fluid outlet communicating with an exit region. The outer surface of the rotor forms one boundary for the fluid heat generating region and is confronted by the inner surface of the main chamber which is the other boundary. The fluid inlet is positioned closer to the longitudinal axis of the machine as compared to the fluid exit. The rotor is provided with at least one array of cavitation-inducing holes. Preferably, several rows of holes are configured on the rotor surface, some of which may have a depth dimension extending the radial width of the rotor.